



The Commission on
Women, Children, Seniors, Equity & Opportunity

CWCSEO

Connecticut General Assembly

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Press Release

Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity's Statement of Unity and Anti-Hate

Hartford, CT – The Connecticut Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity (CWCSEO) calls for unity in the face of coronavirus (COVID-19) and condemns racism and discrimination targeting Asian Americans related to the pandemic.

As our nation grapples with the coronavirus, we are deeply concerned that recent incidents of racism and discrimination against Asian Americans threaten our collective public safety. The Commission has received reports that in recent weeks, Asian Americans have been subjected to **cyberbullying**, violent attacks, discrimination against their business, and xenophobic portrayals.

Connecticut is a welcoming state. In 2017, the Connecticut General Assembly unanimously passed *An Act Concerning Hate Crimes*. As such, hate crimes and such deplorable acts have no place in the State of Connecticut. We further believe such deplorable acts have no place in the United States of America.

The CWCSEO takes this moment to call on elected officials and constituents to unequivocally repudiate bigotry, racism, and discrimination, and not to be silent or complacent the mistreatment of others based on race or national origin. The Coronavirus does not discriminate based on race or ethnicity.

We stand with **Asian American groups such as the Asian Pacific American Coalition of Connecticut (APAC-CT)**, and those who speak out unconditionally condemning racism, hatred, and bigotry. We implore current and future leaders of our country to always clearly and unconditionally reject and condemn hate speech, hate crimes, bigotry, and behaviors that promote racism, discrimination, and hatred.

The CWCSEO is a nonpartisan legislative agency within the Connecticut General Assembly with a data driven, cross-cultural approach to policy innovation, promoting best practices, breaking barriers, and helping to build a more equitable and accessible state for all Connecticut residents.

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